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15 PATENT OF INVENTION

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71 Applicant: BOUYER, Henri Jean Pierre, residing in France (Paris)

73 Holder: Same as 71

74 Agent:

54 Process for diagnosing common skin types

72 Invention of:

33 32 31 Conventional priority:

This invention concerns a means for diagnosing common skin types.

In the past, such diagnosis has been done by a qualified individual or by the subject himself/herself based on personal criteria that were not always exact.

The process according to the invention makes it possible to dispense with a direct examination. In addition, it is accurate. Finally, it is simple. It can be used for recommending beauty products.

The process which is the object of the invention is based on the following observation: an adhesive strip applied to the skin and then pulled off brings with it surface elements from the epidermis that remain stuck to the strip, providing a sample that is an accurate impression of the skin's surface. In particular:

-in the case of oily skin, the pores appear dilated, and sebum is abundant.

Blackheads are sometimes extracted whole.

-in the case of dry skin, the layer of cells pulled off is quite large and sebum and pores are nonexistent.

-normal skin gives an intermediate appearance.

-mixed skin gives two different appearances for skin that appears different at two sampling points.

In addition, imprints of wrinkles and hairs are easy to see.

This property can be used in devices that allow skin samples to be taken so that they can be diagnosed [illegible].

A first device uses a plain adhesive strip to be applied to the skin and pulled off

(a).

A second device uses an adhesive strip on a support from which it is detached before use (b).

A third device uses a strip stuck to a thin surface pierced with openings through which the samples are taken, and it may include application of histological dyes for coloration.

Another device uses several adhesive parts allowing several samples to be taken, for a knowledge of the skin's appearance on various parts of the body.

The process and the devices that are objects of the invention may be used in all cases in which it may be useful to know the skin type, particularly for recommending, selling, or advertising beauty products. They may be particularly useful when these products are sold by mail order.

#### CLAIMS

1. Process for diagnosis of common skin types, using the property of an adhesive substance applied to the skin to indicate the characteristics of the skin type when a skin sample is pulled off.
2. Device according to Claim I, characterized in that this property is that of a transparent adhesive strip.
3. Device according to Claim 2, characterized in that this strip is attached to a support.

4. Device according to Claim 2, characterized in that this strip is attached to a thin support having openings permitting direct sampling and application of a histological dye.

5. Device according to Claim 3, characterized in that this device comprises several adhesive parts permitting several samples to be taken.